NOONDAY ORGAN RECITALS



ST. PAUL'S CHAPEL - COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Beginning at 12:05

MARCH 1955

TUESDAY, MARCH 1st HERBERT BURTIS, M.S.M. SEARLE WRIGHT, F.A.G.O. MEMBERS OF ST. PAUL'S CHAPEL CHOIR, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
Psalmus: Da Jesus an dem Kreuze stund Samuel Scheidt (1587-1654)
Messe des Pauvres
THURSDAY, MARCH 3rd SYLVIA PALMORE (Organist and Choir Director, Mt. Calvary Church, New York City)
Fugue in E flat Chorale Prelude—Nun komm', der Heiden Heiland Concerto in G J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
Air with Variations (Suite for Organ) Leo Sowerby
Dieu Parmi Nous (La Nativité du Seigneur) . Olivier Messiaen
TUESDAY, MARCH 8th LEONARD RAVER (Organist and Choirmaster, St. John's Church, New Rochelle, N. Y.)
Agincourt Hymn John Dunstable
Sonata in G minor, Longo 49
Prelude and Fugue in F sharp minor Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)
Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele J. S. Bach
Française Jean Langlais
Symphony in G: Fast and Sinister Leo Sowerby
THURSDAY, MARCH 10th CORLISS R. ARNOLD, S.M.D., A.A.G.O. (Director of Music, First Methodist Church, Oak Park, Ill.)
Psalm 19
Two Choral Preludes
(continued)

Fantasie in F minor, K 608
Fantasy for Flute Stops Leo Sowerby
Fantasy, Choral and Toccata on "Veni Emmanuel" (1955) Corliss R Arnold
TUESDAY, MARCH 15th HERBERT BURTIS
Grand Jeu
(1676(?)-1751)
Flötenuhr Franz Josef Haydn
Benedictus
How Fair and Pleasant art Thou Marcel Dupré
Litanies
THURSDAY, MARCH 17th SEARLE WRIGHT
Prelude and Fugue in C minor
Menuet (Symphonie IV) Louis Vierne
O clemens! O pia! (1870-1937) Electa ut sol (
Dieta ii soi
TUESDAY, MARCH 22nd DAVID BALLANTINE, M.S. (Organist, First Church of Christ Scientist, New York City)
Chorale Prelude As Jesus Stood Beneath the Cross Max Reger
I. D. C.I.
Dilan IIani
Piece Fieroique
THURSDAY, MARCH 24th Concerto No. 4
Le Jardin Suspendu Jéhan Alain

TUESDAY, MARCH 29th CHARLES HUDDLESTON HEATON (Organist, Kirkpatrick Chapel, Rutgers University)
Trumpet Tune and Air
The Mirrored Moon
Cortege and Litany
longing for heaven Olivier Messiaen
From Heaven High Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)
THURSDAY, MARCH 31st MARILYN MASON (Faculty, University of Michigan, and Summer Session Faculty, Columbia University)
Prelude and Fugue in D J. S. Bach
*Commotio, Op. 58 (1931)
Trois Danses
* first performance in America

SUNDAY, MARCH 27 — 8:15 P.M.
EIN DEUTSCHES REQUIEM
by
Johannes Brahms

ST PAIN'S CHARE CL

ST. PAUL'S CHAPEL CHOIR Searle Wright, Organist and Choirmaster

Commotio. Op. 58

Carl Nielsen

David Hall writes about the composer, "Denmark's Carl Nielsen ranks with Jean Sibelius of Finland not only as the greatest symphonist of the Northern countries, but as one of the few great symphonists of the past fifty years. The very core of Nielsen's musical creation is to be found in his six symphonies...side by side with these monumental works, Nielsen produced a whole sheaf of smaller works. Stylistically his music has its roots in the great heritage of Bach and the Viennese classic masters; in the sights, sounds, and song of Nielsen's own Denmark; and in Nielsen's own profound feeling for nature and his deeply humanistic outlook on life. The end result of all this in terms of listening experience is that one senses something very new and "modern" about it."

Although Nielsen wrote some smaller pieces for the organ, "Commotio" is his largest work for this medium. It was finished February 27, 1931.

The work is very rhapsodic and divides itself into four sections. The opening thirty bars of the Adagio are devoted to a triplet figure, key of g minor, which is greatly extended and elaborated. The second section, Andantino quasi allegretto opens in a vein of idyllic tranquillity with a solo theme which is eventually heard in canon with the pedals. Soon a fugue subject is heard and this is developed to a great tutti climax. Out of this furor comes an expressive solo line binding us to the third section, a lyrical, sustained movement, which is brought very soon to a climactic ending. A second fugue subject is presented, in gigue time, and developed rhapsodically. The rise and fall of this movement, with alternations of forte and pianissimo registers, prepares the way for a final statement of this same fugue subject, the gigue, and brings the work to a sudden and dramatic close.

Jehan Alain (1911-1940)

Trois Dances

Alain's organ music has had considerable acclaim, and were it not for his untimely death in 1940, he would probably be one of the leaders of French composition today. These three dances, I have been told by Jean Langlais, were written after the death of Alain's sister, who was killed during a mountain climbing expedition.

The first dance, Joys, presents two themes - a sustained, melodic theme sounded, as the composer suggests, in solo reed colors. The second theme, one of strong rhythmic drive is presented immediately and developed somewhat. The middle section of the work evolves around the use of the first theme in the right hand, while the left hand takes the second theme, with newly added rhythms. The work closes in a brilliant finale, turbulent and impetuous, followed by a sombre oboe melody repeated in the clarinet.

The second dance, Mourning, or Funeral Dance, has as its basis a foreboding distance theme. It is treated in various ways and colors, and eventually in an intense dynamic motion, harmonized in modes peculiar to Alain, with the tri-tone invariably dominating. It ends with an Oriental chant, almost like a wail - sorrowful, crying, futile.

The third dance, Struggles, contains no new material, but is more a summation of the two previous dances. It uses material from both works, and combines the themes in various ways, each in their "struggle" for domination, restless, unceasing. Its rhythmic drive brings the work to an intense abrupt close; the composer has marked this final section simply, "Brutalement".